

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 BIB-01 IO-13 CU-02 /084 W  
-----028054 211903Z /50

R 211423Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7451  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY RONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 VALLETTA 0697

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, MT

SUBJECT: MINTOFF AND JALLUD ADDRESS OPENING SESSION OF  
MEDITERRANEAN SOCIALIST MEETING

REF: VALLETTA 0688, VALLETTA 0450,

1. THE WEEK-LONG MEETING OF "PROGRESSIVE" MEDITERRANEAN  
SOCIALISTS OPENED AS SCHEDULED ON JUNE 20. THE FIRST  
MORNING SESSION WAS TAKEN UP WITH A SPEECH OF WELCOME  
BY MINTOFF, FOLLOWED BY RELATIVELY RESTRAINED REMARKS  
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FROM LIBYAN REPRESENTATIVE JALLUD. THIS SESSION WAS OPEN  
TO THE PRESS AND WAS FILMED FOR TRANSMISSION ON MALTESE  
TELEVISION. THUS FAR, THE FIREWORKS HAVE BEEN RATHER  
MUTED.

2. THE FIRST SESSION WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY THE LOCAL  
DIPLOMATIC CORPS (MINUS THE ISRAELI AND CHINESE AMBASSADORS),

WHOSE ENTHUSIASM FOR THE HISTORIC OCCASION WAS CONSIDERABLY DAMPENED AFTER HAVING BEEN KEPT WAITING BY THE GOM AT THE AIRPORT FOR THREE HOURS EARLIER THAT HOT MORNING (ALONG WITH THE MILITARY HONOR GUARD) IN ORDER TO HAVE THE PLEASURE OF WELCOMING JALLUD TO MALTA. NO EXPLANATION WAS FORTHCOMING AS TO WHY THE MAJOR WAS SO LATE IN MAKING THE HALF-HOUR FLIGHT FROM LIBYA.

3. TELEVISION COVERAGE SPENT MORE TIME FOCUSING ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LARGE MALTESE DELEGATION (INCLUDING ALL OF MINTOFF'S CABINET MEMBERS, AS WELL AS SUNDRY OTHER MALTA LABOR PARTY PARLIAMENTARIANS AND FUNCTIONARIES) THAN ON THE FOREIGN VISITORS. THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL LIST RELEASED YET OF THE PARTICIPANTS, BUT THE PRESS REPORTS THE FOLLOWING TO BE REPRESENTED: "PARTI SOCIALISTE DESTOURIEN, OF TUNISIA; NATIONAL SOCIAL SYRIAN PARTY, OF LEBANON; FRONT DEL LIBERATION NATIONAL, OF ALGERIA; PASOK PANHELLENIC SOCIALIST MOVEMENT OF GREECE; ARAB SOCIALIST UNION (NASSERITE FORMATION), OF LEBANON; OMAN LIBERATION MOVEMENT; PEOPLES PARTY, OF MAURITANIA; BAATH SOCIALIST PARTY (NATIONAL COMMAND), OF IRAQ; CHAD FROLINAT LIBERATION MOVEMENT; ARABISTAN LIBERATION MOVEMENT; GENERAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS IN P.S.L.A., AL-JAMAHEREYA; EDEK SOCIALIST PARTY, OF CYPRUS; PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION OF PALESTINE; THAILAND LIBERATION MOVEMENT (FATANI); SOCIALIST ALLIANCE, YUGOSLAVIA, POPULAR SOCIALIST PARTY, SPAIN; FEDERATION CONFIDENTIAL

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OF SOCIALIST PARTIES, SPAIN; PARTI SOCIALISTS PROGRESSISTE, LEBANON; AND PARTITO SOCIALISTA ITALIANO" (SIC).

4. MINTOFF'S SPEECH WAS, FOR HIM, LESS POLEMICAL THAN MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED. WITH A LARGER-THAN LIFE PHOTOGRAPH OF HIMSELF BEAMING AT THE AUDIENCE FROM BEHIND THE PODIUM, HE READ HIS WAY THROUGH A PREPARED STATEMENT IN FAIRLY PEDESTRIAN FASHION. (FULL TEXT BEING POUCHED TO EUR/WE).

5. MINTOFF EMPHASIZED THREE BASIC THEMES IN HIS SPEECH: (1) A RENEWED DEMAND FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN MILITARY FORCES FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN; (2) A CALL FOR INCREASED CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG THE COUNTRIES BORDERING THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN SHORES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN; AND (3) AN EMPHASIS ON THE NECESSITY OF ENSURING THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THE CSCE DOCUMENT ON THE MEDITERRANEAN ARE IMPLEMENTED.

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6. ON HIS FAVORITE SUBJECT OF REMOVING THE SUPERPOWERS FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN, MINTOFF SAID: "WHEN THE PEOPLE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN ARE LIVING TOGETHER IN PEACE, AND WARSHIPS, GUNS AND NUCLEAR MISSILES OF THE TWO SUPERPOWERS ARE NO LONGER NEEDED TO PRESERVE THIS PEACE, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE SOVIET UNION WILL HEAVE A SIGH OF RELIEF. A FREE MEDITERRANEAN WILL RELEASE THE SUPERPOWERS FROM A TERRIBLE BURDEN -- ONE WHICH HINDERS THEIR PROSPERITY AS THEY LIVE DAILY IN THE SHADOW OF A NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST WHICH THREATENS TO REDUCE THIS MODERN WORLD, CONFIDENTIAL

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WITH ALL ITS GLORY, INTO A MOUND OF ASHES."

7. REGARDING CSCE, MINTOFF STATED: "THE GOVERNMENTS OF

SOUTHERN EUROPE BORDERING THE MEDITERRANEAN ... MUST ENSURE THAT THE HELSINKI DOCUMENT ON THE MEDITERRANEAN WILL NOT REMAIN A DEAD LETTER. THE HOPES OF THOSE WHO TRULY WANT POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL AND CULTURAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES OF EUROPE AND NORTHERN AFRICA MUST NOW BE FULFILLED. WE BELIEVE THAT THE PRINCIPAL AIM OF THE BELGRADE MEETINGS SHOULD BE THE SETTING UP OF A PERMANENT COMMITTEE ENTRUSTED WITH THE TASK OF ENSURING THAT ALL NECESSARY MEASURES ARE TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENTS."

8. THE TEXT OF JALLUD'S SPEECH HAS NOT BEEN RELEASED. PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT HIS REMARKS WERE MAINLY ON THE NEED FOR "THE COURSE OF HUMANITY TO TAKE A NEW PATH" IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA, SO THAT NO ONE COULD "DENY THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE" TO LIVE "WITHOUT OPPRESSION, SLAVERY OR EXPLOITATION", GUIDED BY THE PRINCIPLES OF SOCIALISM. JALLUD PRAISED MINTOFF AND THE MALTESE PEOPLE FOR THEIR NEUTRAL, NON-ALIGNED STANCE, AND FOR THEIR WORK IN ARRANGING THIS CONFERENCE. HE DID NOT APPEAR INSPIRED BY HIS OWN WORDS, AND THE AUDIENCE REACTION WAS MUCH LESS THAN ENTHUSIASTIC.

9. COMMENT: THE OPENING SESSION WAS TREATED BY THE PRO-MINTOFF ELEMENTS OF THE MALTESE MEDIA AS MORE OF AN EXERCISE IN SELF-CONGRATULATION -- AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRAISE DOM AS THE "ARCHITECT OF PEACE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN" -- THAN ANYTHING ELSE. SINCE THE CONFERENCE IS SCHEDULED TO EXTEND THROUGH JUNE 25, PERHAPS THE FORTHCOMING DAYS WILL FEATURE A LITTLE LESS LOCALITIS. LAINGEN  
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